

October 18, 2019

ExParte Notice
VIA ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Transforming the 2.5 GHz Band, WT Docket No. 18-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 16, 2019, Mariel Triggs, CEO of MuralNet, met with various members of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau: Dana Shaffer, Deputy Bureau Chief; John Schauble, Broadband Division Deputy Chief; and Legal Advisors Nadja Sodos Wallace and Nancy Zaczek. Edyael Casaperalta, attorney for MuralNet, joined the conversation via telephone.

In this meeting, MuralNet discussed the timeframe for the Tribal Priority Filing Window (“Window”) of the *Transforming the 2.5 GHz Band* Proceeding. MuralNet believes that the FCC’s stated goal in creating a Tribal Priority Filing Window, “to enable Tribal nations an opportunity to obtain 2.5 GHz licenses to provide service on rural Tribal lands,”¹ will be better served by allowing as much time as possible for tribes and tribal entities to ready themselves before the Window commences. A period of five months for outreach and education will accommodate the traditional processes for tribal council deliberations that determine a tribe or tribal entity’s participation.

Commission staff discussed the agency’s efforts to inform interested parties about the Window since August. Those efforts reached tribes already familiar with the FCC and spectrum processes. MuralNet encouraged the Commission to directly target all federally-recognized tribes on eligible lands, and to dedicate special outreach to tribes and tribal entities new to the FCC. Outreach to all eligible entities will achieve the goal of enabling Tribal nations an opportunity to provide service on rural Tribal lands.

MuralNet commended the efforts of the Commission to develop tools that tribes and tribal entities will need to fairly participate in the Tribal Priority Filing Window. These valuable tools such as updated maps of available EBS licenses, a list of the tribal lands that qualify, a Frequently Asked Questions section about this opportunity on the FCC’s website, and a dedicated email address to facilitate communication with interested parties, are integral to the success of the Window. Effective outreach that allows participants to take advantage of this opportunity cannot begin until those tools are finalized and made available.

¹ See *Transforming the 2.5 GHz Band*, Report and Order, 34 FCC Rcd 5446(7), para. 13 (2019).

MuralNet also asked questions about the definitions for “local” and “rural” pertaining the general eligibility of tribal lands.

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mariel Triggs

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